

Workingmen's Houses,
David Burns House
670 Dodge Street
Dubuque
Dubuque County
Iowa

HABS No. IA-159-AU

*HABS
IOWA,
31-DUBU,
14-AU-*

**PHOTOGRAPHS
HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA**

Historic American Buildings Survey
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
P.O. Box 25287
Denver Colorado 80225

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Site Location: 670 Dodge Street
Dubuque, Dubuque County, Iowa
DOT designation: Resource Site No. 3.13
Cadastral grid : NW1/4 SE1/4 S25 T89N R2E
USGS quadrangle: Dubuque South Iowa 7.5'
UTM coordinates: 15.691620.4706785
Lot dimensions : 40'x 100': .09 acre
Lot description: Lot 11 and East 1/2 of Lot 12
of Newman, Cooper and Smyth's
Subdivision of Out Lot 695

Present Owner: Iowa Department of Transportation
Present Usage: vacant
Present Condition : fair

Overall Dimensions: 26'x 16'; two stories
Orientation : northwest
Architectural Plan type : rectangular; two story.
Description : Foundation : parged stone perimeter walls on main block;
concrete block walls on front porch.
Structure : wood frame
Ext. walls: brick-pattern asphalt siding over beveled wood
siding.
Roofs : moderately pitched front gable over main block;
shed roof over rear addition; shallowly pitched
hip over front porch; asphalt shingles and roll
roofing throughout.
Chimneys : one brick exterior chimney on side wall of main
block.
Dormers : none
Openings : painted wood 1/1 double-hung windows through-
out; single-leaf front door with transom offset
on front porch.
Porches : full-width, single-story front porch, with
three tapered square columns supporting hipped
roof, asphalt siding on apron and no exterior
access.
Details : boxed and molded cornices on main block and
front porch roofs.

Construction Date : 1878
Architecture Style: Gable ended box
Physical History : In 1869 prominent Dubuque capitalists A.A. Cooper, William
Newman and Edward Smyth subdivided the north part of Out Lot 695 into fourteen

residential lots. In August 1878 David Burns purchased Lot 11 and a portion of Lot 12 from the developers for \$250. He is listed at this address in a city directory published that year; he evidently built this two-story frame house that year. A shoemaker who had a shop in his house, Burns lived here until his death sometime around 1890. His widow Ann occupied the house with their son John until she, too, died in 1903. Burns' children sold the property that year to Thomas Rudd, a laborer for the Standard Lumber Company, for \$825. Rudd lived in the house with his wife Bridget until his death in 1915. The house remained in the Rudd family's hands until 1944, when it was sold to George L. Flanagan. Flanagan sold the property in 1986 to the Iowa Department of Transportation, which intends to demolish the building for construction of a proposed highway. Alterations over this extended period have been relatively minor, involving primarily the installation of new exterior siding.

Significance: Like most of the adjacent structures on Dodge Street, the David Burns House is a gable end box - one of the most common workingmen's house types of the period. Relatively intact, it forms a contributing element in a neighborhood of working class dwellings, built in the late 19th century in south Dubuque.

References: Dubuque City Directories: 1857 - 1970.
Sanborn Insurance Maps: 1879, 1884, 1891, 1909, 1972.
Dubuque County Assessment Record: 3-24-5-26.
Iowa Department of Transportation, "Draft Environmental
Impact Statement - Cultural Resources Assessment."
Land Title Abstract (located at Iowa Department of
Transportation, Ames Iowa).

Compiler: Clayton B. Fraser, Fraserdesign, Loveland Colorado.
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